



## Mr. Joel Cooper Smith

November 6, 1962 - July 1, 2018

Joel Cooper Smith, 55, of Morrilton, formerly of St. Charles/DeWitt, passed away July 1, 2018, surrounded by his family. He was born November 6, 1962 to Albert and Sue Cooper Smith.

Joel was currently employed by Winthrop Rockefeller Institute as Director of Conference Services. He previously served as manager at Mathers Lodge at Petit Jean State Park, as well as holding various hospitality management positions in Central Arkansas, Indiana, Tennessee, and North Carolina.

Joel had a way with people, a way with words, and a flare for life. He was dearly loved by his family and friends.

Joel was preceded in death by his mother, Sue C. Smith, and brother, T. Allen Smith both of DeWitt.

He is survived by his dad, Albert Smith and his wife Nancy, sister Su'Aaron S. Travis and husband Ralph all of DeWitt, and nephew Tucker Travis of Dallas, TX.

A memorial service will be 2:00 p.m. July 5 at First Baptist Church in DeWitt. Visitation will be one hour prior to the memorial service. Memorials may be made Winthrop Rockefeller Institute, 1 Rockefeller Dr., Morrilton, AR 72110,

Attn: accounting. Please note on memorials for the Joel Smith Leadership Fund.

Cremation arrangements by Essex Funeral Home. [www.essexfuneralhome.com](http://www.essexfuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 5. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of DeWitt  
DeWitt, AR

## Memorial Service

JUL 5. 2:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of DeWitt  
DeWitt, AR

# Tribute Wall

RE

“ I knew Joel from working with him at Petit Jean State Park and at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute. My favorite memory of him was watching him dine with his sister at a "Titanic" themed culinary event at WRI. He was such a pleasant person to be around, and I will miss him. My sincere condolences to his friends and family.

*Rachel Engebrecht  
Morrilton, Arkansas*

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**Rachel Engebrecht** - July 05, 2018 at 10:07 AM

CH

“ My deepest sympathy and prayers to Joel's Family. It has been a great experience working under Joel, and having him to share any situation I had whether personal or otherwise. I will certainly miss him, and so will everyone else who knew him.

*Charlie Hilton  
Clarksville, AR*

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**Charles C Hilton** - July 03, 2018 at 06:23 PM

PS

“ Petit Jean State Park Staff purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Mr. Joel Cooper Smith.



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**Petit Jean State Park Staff** - July 03, 2018 at 04:59 PM



“ I couldn't get this to work yesterday.. I'll give it another try. Joel could have fixed it for them I have no doubt!  
"Friendship is all about trusting each other, helping each other, loving each other and being crazy together." I won't forget Joel's laughter. It came easy to him. I could listen to his stories of his life experiences and laugh until my stomach hurt or until I couldn't catch my breath. Being his friend for thirty years was also easy, missing him will be hard  
My deepest sympathy to his close little family - he loved you with all of his heart!

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jan jewell - July 03, 2018 at 12:34 PM



“ I got to know Joel from Petit Jeans Mather Lodge. We hit it off and our friendship continued to grow while he worked at the park and when he moved to WinRock. He was so funny and had such a great outlook on things. Not to long ago he tried to get me to come work for him and I regret saying no. He loved his family, and was so proud of his nephew. I wish I had all the words to take all the sadness and morning away for his family and close friends as well as the coworkers at WinRock. Joel was loved by so many people, he was one of a kind. I will miss you dearly my friend.

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Kathy Kincade - July 03, 2018 at 08:41 AM